



CHRIST'S CHURCH
OF THE CANYON

What a great confession!

I asked Uncle Google how many Roman Catholics go to confession?

In an article found in the Boston Globe the answer is, "not very many." In fact, only 2 percent of Catholics go regularly to confession, according to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, a nonprofit organization affiliated with Georgetown University—and three-quarters of them never go, or go less than once a year.

Boston Globe Feb 16, 2014

Why is this information important? As of the 2010 census 24% of Wrightwood's population are Roman Catholic. Confession to the Roman Catholic means a regular visit to the confessional, confessing then asking for forgiveness for sins committed. Here's the problem. As Protestants, we're stuck on one definition of the word "confession."

Confession defined:

- 1) A formal statement admitting that one is guilty of a crime (or sin).

The second definition is the one I'm looking for...

- 2) A statement setting out essential religious doctrine.

There are several "confessions" where people in God's Word unintentionally stated "essential religious doctrine." One is Peter's confession found in Matthew 16:16. Jesus asks his disciples, "*Who do you say that I am?*" Simon Peter answered, "*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" That's a great confession! Another confession is one that gets less attention but no less important. Martha's "confession" is found in John 11. Lazarus has died. That's Martha's brother. There's some small talk about the resurrection between Jesus and Martha. Jesus says to her, "*I am the resurrection and the life; the one who believes in Me will live, even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?*" And, Martha's response? "*Yes, Lord; I have come to believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, and He who comes into the world.*" Martha, God bless her, puts forth a phenomenal confession worthy of being an essential religious doctrine. After being with Jesus not hours, not days, not even weeks or months but years comes to the conclusion on her own that Jesus is in fact Jehovah! He is the Christ, the Son of God. What a GREAT confession! Each type of confession requires an admission. The first is an admission of guilt. The second? Admitting that Jesus is who He says He is!

Pr. Wayne



CHRIST'S CHURCH
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Sunday On-line Service

- Sunday, March 7, John 11 and Communion

Prayers

- Upcoming Youth Tour to Arizona, March 22-26
Will 50 of you covenant with God to pray each day leading up to the Tour and the week of the Tour to see lives changed for God? If so, please send me an email (wayne@christchurchofthecanyon.com)
- Marla and Paul Bowers (Homegoing of Marla's sister)